

Nixon Aide Hits Press Conferences

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(AP)—President Nixon's domestic affairs adviser said today the President doesn't hold more televised news conferences because the presence of TV cameras makes members of the press feel they have to put on a show.

The administration doesn't feel the press represents the people and it is the President's job to communicate with the people, John D. Ehrlichman told a news conference.

"Newsmen are like insecure young ladies. They keep asking us if we love them. If you don't want to know, don't ask," Ehrlichman said.

On Tuesday, Ehrlichman said one reason the President has few news conferences is that newsmen ask stupid questions.

"He doesn't get very good questions at a press conference, frankly," said Ehrlichman. "He goes in there for a half hour and gets a lot of flabby and fairly dumb questions and it doesn't really elucidate very much.

"I've seen him many times come off one of those things and go back in and say, 'Isn't it extraordinary how poor the quality of the questions are?'"

Asked during an interview taped Tuesday for showing on KNBC television Saturday why Mr. Nixon has had only one news conference this year, he said, "He's been very busy, and he communicates with the American people in a lot of different ways."

In a typical news conference, Ehrlichman said, "You have 300 people jumping up and yelling, 'Mr. President,' and all that kind of thing and it just isn't a very useful way of communicating with the American people . . ."